

Message Text

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21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12

SAM-01 /063 W

----- 122412

R 030914Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1514

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMCONSUL LUANDA

CONFIDENTIAL KINSHASA 1759

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CG IV

SUBJECT: IVORY COAST DIPLOMACY

1. AMBASSADOR FIANKAN TELLS ME HE IS PROCEEDING TO ABIDJAN AFTER TALKING WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU FEB. 27. HE EXPECTS TO ARRANGE HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY VISIT TO KINSHASA FOLLOWING BANGUI MEETING OF AFRICAN FRANCOPHONE CHIEFS OF STATE WITH FRENCH PRESIDENT.

2. VISIT OF HOLDEN ROBERTO TO ABIDJAN (FEB 14-16) AIMED AT KEEPING FNLA, MOBUTU AND HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY ON SAME POLICY LINE. FIANKAN HINTED THAT HE AND GOVERNMENT OF IVORY COAST COUNSELLED AGAINST CHIPENDA-FNLA LINK-UP AND IN FAVOR OF POLITICAL RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD INVOLVE CHIPENDA DEMONSTRATING ELECTORAL STRENGTH IN ANGOLA ON BASIS OF WHICH CHIPENDA'S ENTRY INTO ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT WOULD BE SEEN AS INEVITABLE.

3. COMMENT: IT IS NOT CLEAR HOW CHIPENDA COULD DEMONSTRATE ELECTORAL STRENGTH WHEN HIS GROUP CANNOT PRESENT CANDIDATES IN FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS UNDER ALVOR AGREEMENT TERMS. HOWEVER, IT IS JUST

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CONCEIVABLE THAT FIANKAN IDEA, WHICH GAVE SOME

WEIGHT TO PORTUGUESE AND KAUDA CONCERNS ABOUT
HOLDEN-CHIPENDA ALLIANCE, HELPS EXPLAIN WHY CHIPENDA
MOVED TO MILITARY ALLIANCE WITH FNLA BUT STOPPED SHORT AS
OF NOW OF FULL POLITICAL ADHENSION. AS FOR FIANKAN,
WHILE I'M UNCERTAIN HOW MUCH CREDENCE HE MERITS, I
HAVE FOUND HIM WELL DISPOSED TO US, AND HE HAS
EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH MOBUTU, HOLDEN, AND MANY
OTEHR ZAIROIS, BUILT UP OVER PAST EIGHT YEARS.

HINTON

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